SECOND REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 1301

96TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVES McCAHERTY (Sponsor), BURLISON, DAY, GRISAMORE, McGHEE, DUGGER, DAVIS, FRAKER, GUERNSEY AND WIELAND (Co-sponsors).

5163L.01I D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To amend chapter 190, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to emergency medical technician licensure of honorably discharged veterans.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

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Section A. Chapter 190, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be 2 known as section 190.139, to read as follows:

190.139. 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary and by no later than January 1, 2013, the department shall establish by rule a procedure to allow any member of the United States Armed Forces who is honorably discharged to obtain licensure as an emergency medical technician-basic (EMT-B), emergency medical technician-intermediate (EMT-I), or paramedic (EMT-P) regardless of whether they are certified with the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT) if they meet all other requirements of licensure under state law.

- 2. Such rules promulgated under subsection 1 of this section shall include rules which ensure that:
- 10 (1) Such honorably discharged veterans requesting an EMT-B, EMT-I, or EMT-P
 11 license under this section receive a lifetime exemption from any National Registry of
 12 Emergency Medical Technicians certification requirement and are able to renew their
 13 license as an EMT-B, EMT-I, or EMT-P without such certification;
- 14 (2) All licensees receiving licensure under this section are required to obtain similar 15 continuing education units as NREMT certified licensees;

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(3) All honorably discharged veterans requesting an EMT-B, EMT-I, or EMT-P license under this section shall meet all the necessary requirements of adequate education and skills to function at the level of licensure requested. Verification of such education and skills may be made through a testing process or by developing a memorandum of understanding with the appropriate authorities within the federal Department of Defense, Department of Homeland Security, Public Health Services, or the individual branch of the United States Armed Forces to allow military personnel to transition into the appropriate level of licensure in this state based on their qualifications, certifications, or military occupational specialties (MOS) earned in the military, or based on courses, training programs, or schools completed during their military service.

- 3. If the department identifies military certifications, qualifications, or training programs which are similar but are nominally deficient in the skills and education required to obtain an EMT-B, EMT-I, or EMT-P license in this state, the department shall, within a reasonable time, establish a program to allow returning veterans to gain the skills and education not provided within their military training, but which are required for licensure in this state. Any veteran who meets all of the requirements for a lower level license under this section shall have the option of participating in such program to obtain a higher level of licensure or opt out of such program and seek licensure at the highest level for which they are qualified.
- 4. The department may establish reasonable time periods after a veteran is honorably discharged from the military in which such veteran may be licensed under this section.
- 5. If the state of Missouri regulates the licensure or certification of first responders in the same manner as licensure and certification of emergency medical technicians, the provisions of this section shall also apply to licensure and certification of first responders.
- 6. The department shall promulgate rules to implement this section. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010, that is created under the authority delegated in this section shall become effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536 and, if applicable, section 536.028. This section and chapter 536 are nonseverable and if any of the powers vested with the general assembly pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to delay the effective date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28, 2012, shall be invalid and void.

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